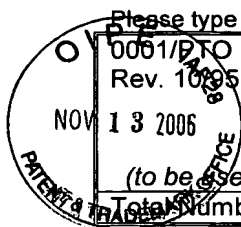


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box [+]

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. Department of Commerce



0001/PTO
Rev. 10/05

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of pages in this Submission

3+

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/759,262 |
| Filing Date | 01/19/2004 |
| First Named Inventor | John J. Kondratuk |
| Group Art Unit | 3635 |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 4470-00716 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☒ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Response
 - ☐ After final
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
 - ☐ Response to Missing Parts Under 37.1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition Checklist and Accompanying Petition
- ☐ To Convert a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer

- ☐ After Allowance Communication To Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board Of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Additional Enclosure(s) (Please identify below)

Return receipt postcard

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm Or Individual Name | Joseph J. Jochman, Reg. No. 25,058 ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP 100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100, Milwaukee, WI 53202 |
| Signature | |
| Date | November 8, 2006 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

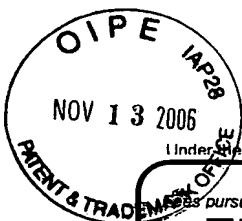
November 8, 2006

Typed or printed name Barbara A. Johnson

Signature

Date

11/08/2006



PTO/SB/17 (12-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Effective on 12/08/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL For FY 2005

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**\$180.00**

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 10/759,262 |
| Filing Date | 01/19/2004 |
| First Named Inventor | John J. Kondratuk |
| Examiner Name | Thomas A. Morrison |
| Art Unit | 3635 |
| Attorney Docket No. | 4470-00716 |

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____
☐ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: **01.2000** Deposit Account Name: **Andrus, Scales, Starke & Sawall, LLP**

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

| Application Type | FILING FEES | | SEARCH FEES | | EXAMINATION FEES | | Fees Paid (\$) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | |
| Utility | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 200 | 100 | |
| Design | 200 | 100 | 100 | 50 | 130 | 65 | |
| Plant | 200 | 100 | 300 | 150 | 160 | 80 | |
| Reissue | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 600 | 300 | |
| Provisional | 200 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

| Fee Description | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) |
|---|----------|-----------------------|
| Each claim over 20 or, for Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent | 50 | 25 |
| Each independent claim over 3 or, for Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent | 200 | 100 |
| Multiple dependent claims | 360 | 180 |

Total Claims - 20 = **Extra Claims** x **Fee (\$)** = **Fee Paid (\$)** **Multiple Dependent Claims**
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20 **Fee (\$)** **Fee Paid (\$)**
Indep. Claims - 3 = **Extra Claims** x **Fee (\$)** = **Fee Paid (\$)**
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets - 100 = **Extra Sheets** / 50 = **Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof** x **Fee (\$)** = **Fee Paid (\$)**
_____ / 50 = _____ (round up to a whole number) x _____ = **\$0.00**

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other: **Information Disclosure Fee**

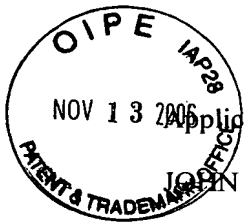
\$180.00

SUBMITTED BY

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Signature | <i>Joseph J. Lochman</i> | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 25,058 | Telephone | 414-271-7590 |
| Name (Print/Type) | JOSEPH J. LOCHMAN | | | Date | 11/08/2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Of:

JOHN J. KONDRATUK ET AL

Application No.: 10/759,262

Filed: 01/19/2004

Group Art Unit: 3653

Examiner: Thomas A. Morrison

SELF-VALVING VACUUM
DISTRIBUTION FOR A BELT-DRIVEN
SHEET CONVEYOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant wishes to call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the prior art patents listed on the enclosed Form 1449. A copy of each foreign patent is enclosed.

A copy of each patent is enclosed. The art comprises patents cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated 20 June 2005 issued by the European Patent Office. A copy of the search report is also enclosed.

The Information Disclosure Statement is also accompanied by a check in the amount \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees in this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 01.2000.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

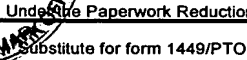
Joseph J. Jochman
Reg. No. 25,058

11/14/2006 AWONDAF1 00000022 10759262

01 FC:1806

180.00 OP

Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, St. 1100
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 271-7590
Attorney Docket No: 4470-00716



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
|-------|---|----|---|

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 10/759,262 |
| Filing Date | 01/19/2004 |
| First Named Inventor | John J. Kondratuk |
| Art Unit | 3653 |
| Examiner Name | Thomas A. Morrison |
| Attorney Docket Number | 4470-00716 |

[illegible]

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | 59-097925 | 6/6/1984 | EPO | | |
| | | 1240077 | 7/21/1971 | U.K. | | |
| | | 2111647 | 7/6/1983 | U.K. | | |
| | | 19963461 | 7/5/2001 | DE | | |
| | | 3001652 | 7/23/1981 | DE | | |
| | | | | | | |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Date Considered | |
|-----------------|--|

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.